

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1266

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase assistance for veterans interred in cemeteries other than national cemeteries, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 2, 2007

Mr. CRAIG introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase assistance for veterans interred in cemeteries other than national cemeteries, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Dignified
5 Burial Assistance Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS IN-**
7 **TERRED IN CEMETERIES OTHER THAN NA-**
8 **TIONAL CEMETERIES.**

9 (a) INCREASE IN PLOT OR INTERMENT ALLOW-
10 ANCE.—Section 2303(b) of title 38, United States Code,

1 is amended by striking “\$300” each place it appears and
 2 inserting “\$400”.

3 (b) REPEAL OF TIME LIMITATION FOR STATE FIL-
 4 ING FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR INTERMENT COSTS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The second sentence of sec-
 6 tion 3.1604(d)(2) of title 38, Code of Federal Regu-
 7 lations, shall have no further force or effect as it
 8 pertains to unclaimed remains of a deceased veteran.

9 (2) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.—The provi-
 10 sion of paragraph (1) shall take effect as of October
 11 1, 2006.

12 (c) GRANTS FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF
 13 STATE VETERANS’ CEMETERIES.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section
 15 2408 of such title is amended—

16 (A) by inserting “(1)” before “Subject to”;

17 (B) by designating the second sentence as
 18 paragraph (2) and indenting the margin of such
 19 paragraph, as so designated, two ems from the
 20 left margin; and

21 (C) in paragraph (1), as designated by
 22 subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, by striking
 23 “assist such State in establishing, expanding, or
 24 improving veterans’ cemeteries owned by such

1 State.” and inserting “assist such State in the
2 following:

3 “(A) Establishing, expanding, or improving vet-
4 erans’ cemeteries owned by such State.

5 “(B) Operating and maintaining such ceme-
6 teries.”.

7 (2) LIMITATION ON AMOUNTS AWARDED.—Sub-
8 section (e) of such section is amended—

9 (A) by inserting “(1)” before “Amounts”;
10 and

11 (B) by adding at the end the following new
12 paragraph:

13 “(2) In any fiscal year, the aggregate amount of
14 grants awarded under this section for the purposes speci-
15 fied in subsection (a)(1)(B) may not exceed \$5,000,000.”.

16 (3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(A) Sub-
17 section (b) of such section is amended—

18 (i) by striking “Grants under this section”
19 and inserting “Grants under this section for the
20 purposes described in subsection (a)(1)(A)”;
21 and

22 (ii) by striking “a grant under this sec-
23 tion” each place it appears and inserting “such
24 a grant”.

1 (B) Subsection (d) of such section is amended
2 by inserting “, or in operating and maintaining a
3 veterans’ cemetery,” after “veterans’ cemetery”.

4 (C) Subsection (f)(1) of such section is amend-
5 ed by inserting “, or in operating and maintaining
6 veterans’ cemeteries,” after “veterans’ cemeteries”.

7 (4) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days
8 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
9 retary of Veterans Affairs shall prescribe regulations
10 to carry out the amendments made by this sub-
11 section.

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